

SIDMOUTH JUNCTION MAIN AND GOSFORD MAIN REHABILITATION, DEVON

(NGRs SY 09479 99901, SY 09500 99260 AND SY 09507 97108)

Results of an archeological watching brief

Prepared by:
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On behalf of:
South West Water Ltd

Document No: ACD313/1/0

Date: July 2013



archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Feniton and Ottery St Mary, East Devon	National Grid Reference Centred on: SY 09479 99901 SY 09500 99260 SY 09507 97108	Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
Subject: Sidmouth Junction Main and Gosford Main Rehabilitation: Results of an archaeological watching brief		Photo attached? N
Planning Application no: N/A	Recipient museum: RAMM	
OASIS ID: 153198	Museum Accession no: Ref. No. 13/44	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD313 and ACD326	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 12, 17 and 31 May, and 1 June 2011	
<p>Description of works.</p> <p>Introduction (Fig. 1) A watching brief was undertaken by AC archaeology during the relaying of water mains at Sidmouth Junction, Feniton, and between Gosford and Taleford, Ottery St Mary. The watching brief was requested by the Devon County Historic Environment Service due to the large numbers of prehistoric heritage assets recorded in the area. These include barrows and ring ditches, crop marks of enclosures and artefact scatters.</p> <p>The works comprised the relining of existing mains and all excavations were undertaken on the line of the existing service trenches, which were situated either within public highways or within the edges of fields adjacent to highways.</p> <p>Area A – centred on SY 09479 99901 (Fig. 2) Two pits were excavated within the field to the west of the road northeast of Sherwood Farm.</p> <p>Pit 1 was L-shaped and measured 3.5m long by 1.6m wide by 1.32m deep. The following undisturbed deposit sequence was exposed in the sides of the pit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100: 0-0.54m mid brown sandy silt topsoil, • 101: 0.54-0.88m orange sand subsoil, and • 102: 0.88m+ natural red-brown sandy clay. <p>Pit 2 was L-shaped and measured 2.90m long by 1.30m wide by 1.34m deep. The following undisturbed deposit sequence was exposed in the sides of the pit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200: 0-0.54m mid brown sandy silt topsoil, • 201: 0.54-0.66m orange sand subsoil, and • 202: 0.66m+ natural bands of fragmentary sandstone and red-brown sandy clay. <p>Area B – centred on SY 90500 99260 (Fig. 3) Three pits were excavated within Ottery Road opposite the junction with The Signals.</p> <p>Pit 1 measured 6m long by 1.50m wide. The following undisturbed deposit sequence was exposed in the sides of the pit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100: 0-0.15m tarmac road surface, • 101: 0.15-0.37m made up ground comprising reddish brown loose sandy gravel, with occasional brick fragments, plastic, galvanised iron nails, and • 102: 0.37m+ natural mid brown-red friable sandy clay, with very frequent small sub-rounded gravels. <p>Pit 2 measured 2m square. The following undisturbed deposit sequence was exposed in the sides of the pit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200: 0-0.15m tarmac road surface, • 201: 0.15-0.40m made up ground comprising reddish brown loose sandy gravel, with occasional brick fragments, plastic, galvanised iron nails, and 		

- 202: 0.40m+ natural mid brown-red sandy clay, friable, very frequent small sub-rounded gravels.

Pit 3 measured 1.50m long by 0.50m wide. The following undisturbed deposit sequence was exposed in the sides of the pit:

- 300: 0-0.12m tarmac road surface,
- 301: 0.12-0.48m made up ground comprising reddish brown loose sandy gravel, with occasional brick fragments, plastic, galvanised iron nails, and
- 302: 0.48m+ mid brown-red sandy clay, friable, very frequent small sub-rounded gravels.

Area C – centred on SY 09507 97108 (Fig. 4)

Four pits were excavated within the fields north of Gosford Lane, between Gosford and Taleford.

Pit 1 measured 2.2m long by 1.30m wide by 0.90m deep. The following undisturbed deposit sequence was exposed in the sides of the pit:

- 100: 0-0.30m dark brown silty loam topsoil with gravel and tarmac inclusions, and
- 101: 0.30m light yellow-brown sandy gravel (probable natural).

Pit 2 measured 2.40m long by 1.30m wide by 0.80m deep. The following undisturbed deposit sequence was exposed in the sides of the pit:

- 200: 0-0.28m mid brown sandy loam topsoil with occasional gravel inclusions,
- 201: 0.28m-0.62m light-mid brown sandy loam subsoil with occasional gravel inclusions, and
- 202: 0.62m + silty sandy clay natural with rare gravel inclusions.

Pit 3 measured 2.50m long by 1.50m wide by 0.90m deep. The following undisturbed deposit sequence was exposed in the sides of the pit:

- 300: 0-0.34m dark brown sandy loam topsoil with occasional gravel inclusions, and
- 301: 0.34m+ mid brown sandy loam subsoil with occasional gravel inclusions.

The base of the pit was not observed due to flooding.

Pit 4 measured 2.3m long by 1.50m wide by 0.86m deep. The following undisturbed deposit sequence was exposed in the sides of the pit:

- 400: 0-0.14m mid brown sandy loam topsoil with rare gravel inclusions,
- 401: 0.14-0.42m light brown sandy loam subsoil with very rare gravel inclusions subsoil, and
- 402: 0.42m+ natural light brown silty sand subsoil.

Comments

No archaeological features were exposed in any of the observed pits and no finds were recovered. In the two locations where the water mains are situated within agricultural land topsoil and subsoil was observed to overlie natural deposits. At Sidmouth Junction, Feniton the observation of pits within Ottery Road demonstrated that late 20th-century deposits directly overlaid natural, probably indicating a degree of truncation within the course of the road.

A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.

Recorder:

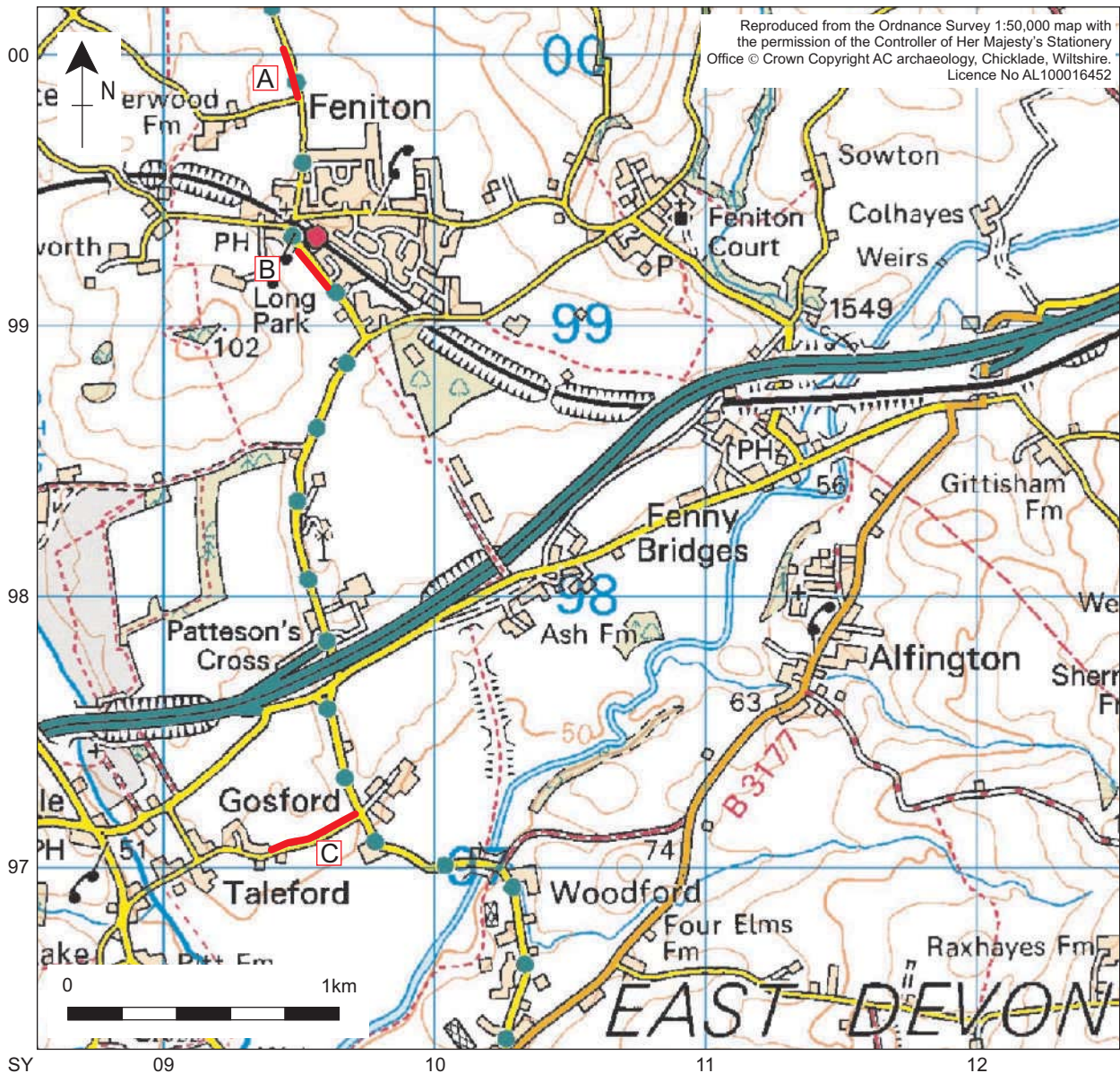
Cain Hegarty, AC archaeology


Date sent to HER:

17 July 2013

Please email completed form to: archaeol@devon.gov.uk or post to County Archaeology Service, Environment Directorate, Matford Lane Offices, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QW. Information recorded on this form will be added to the Historic Environment Record, and made available to all researchers.

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 Areas of works monitored

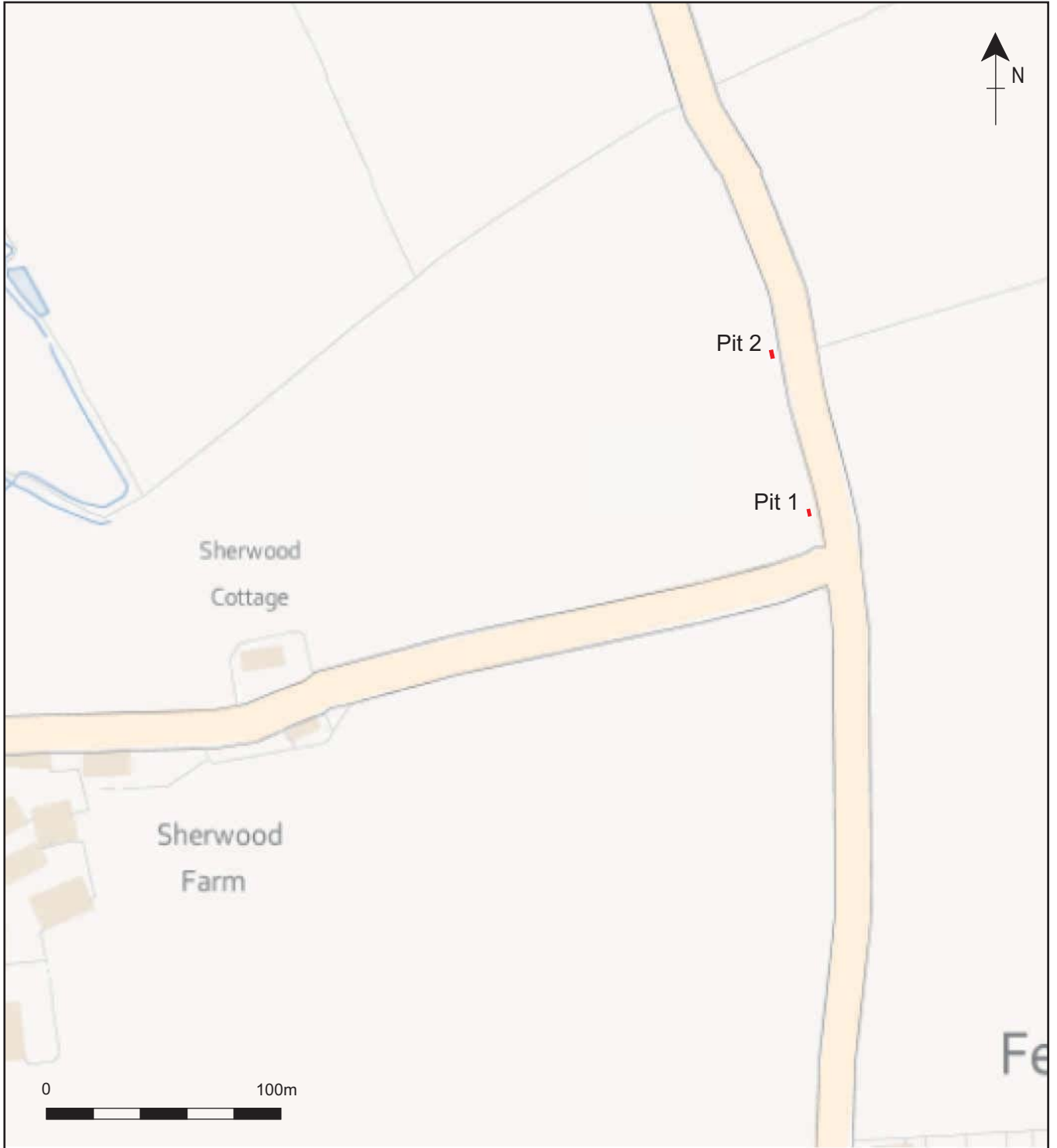
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Sidmouth Junction Main and Gosford Main Rehabilitation

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Fig.1: Location of monitored areas





■ Location of pits

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Fig.2: Location of pits in area A





■ Location of pits

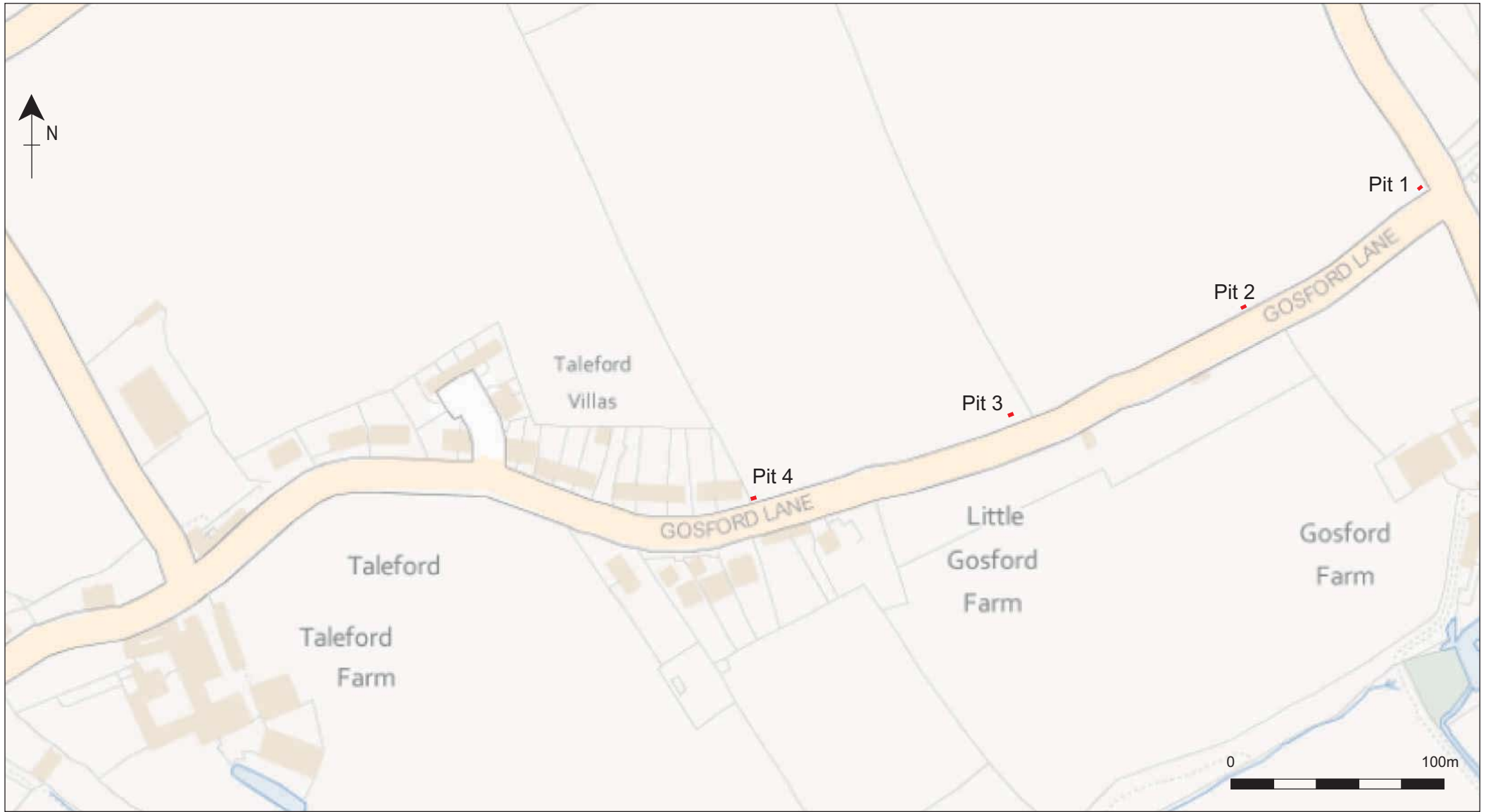
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Fig.3: Location of pits in area B





■ Location of pits

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Fig.4: Location of pits in area C



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